

III. REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the entry of the foregoing amendment to the specification of the above-identified application, which sets forth a correction in the benefit claim to an earlier-filed application.

The facts that precipitate and support the requested correction are as follows:

1. At the time the above-identified application was filed, the application number assigned to the earlier-filed application had not been received by Applicants.

2. At the time the above-identified application was filed, Applicants erroneously indicated the filing date of the earlier-filed application as September 18, 2003.

3. Subsequent to the filing of the above-identified application, Applicants received the Official Filing Receipt of the earlier-filed application. The application number and filing date of the earlier-filed application, as reported on the Official Filing Receipt, are 60/503,027 and September 15, 2003, respectively.

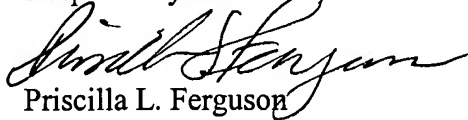
4. The present paper is timely filed pursuant to 37 CFR §1.78, as it is filed during the pendency of the above-identified application, and within the later of four months from the filing date of the above-identified application (namely, September 30, 2003) or sixteen months from the filing date of the earlier-filed application (namely, September 15, 2003).

In view of the foregoing, consideration and entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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